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RORY McCONVILLE
CARLO BARBERI
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SPAWN

SPAWN'S UNIVERSE 92 22

RORY McCONVILLE
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SPAWN CREATED BY
TODD McFARLANE

PREVIOUSLY IN *SPAWN*

The Forsaken is on the Warpath, realizing that he has been lied to by Cordelia the entire time he was in her service. Now, a direct confrontation with Spawn is inevitable.

image

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CORDELIA! WAIT!
WE DON'T HAVE *TIME* TO WAIT, GERARD.
WE NEED TO EVACUATE, NOW! WHEN FORSAKEN GETS HERE HE'LL WIPE OUT EVERYTHING HE SEES, SO WE NEED TO BE GONE BY THEN!
WHAT ABOUT OUR OTHER PATIENTS--THE CREATURES?
DON'T WORRY, I'VE ALREADY TAKEN CARE OF THAT...
"...SECURITY IS SEEING TO THAT DETAIL AS WE SPEAK."

WE CAN'T HAVE ANY LOOSE ENDS LEFT BEHIND. AND ONCE THE GUARDS ARE FINISHED, THIS PLACE WILL BE LEVELED TO THE GROUND.
THINK OF IT AS A MERCY KILLING.
AND OUR RESEARCH? WE DESTROY THAT TOO, ALL THAT HARD WORK?
YOU'RE WELCOME TO STAY BEHIND IF YOU LIKE. I'M NOT.
RRRUMMBLE
DAMMIT! HE'S HERE ALREADY, AHEAD OF SCHEDULE! ALERT THE SECURITY TEAMS!

BWOOM
"CONTAIN HIM-- FOR AS LONG AS YOU CAN!"
WHERE IS SHE?!
WHERE'S CORDELIA?

"AL, HERE'S THE LATEST-- REDEEMER'S STILL FOLLOWING THE FORSAKEN'S TRAIL. HE'S CLOSING IN ON HIS LOCATION."
WHICH APPEARS TO BE SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE COLORADO DESERT.
ONLY RECORDS I SEE ARE FOR AN OLD MILITARY BASE THAT WAS CLOSED DECADES AGO.
NOTHING'S COMING UP ON SATELLITE IMAGES. SO, WHATEVER'S THERE MUST HAVE SOME CLOAKING TECH.
GET ME THOSE COORDINATES ASAP, TERRY!

"I'LL MEET REDEEMER THERE!"
MINUTES LATER.
WHAT'S THE SITUATION?
THIS PLACE IS A SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.
I RECOGNIZE SOME OF THESE SPECIES. THEY MUST'VE BEEN PULLED HERE THROUGH YOUR *'TIME HOLE'* AS WELL...
THERE'S HUNDREDS OF THESE CELLS.
THESE ARE SCORCHED-EARTH TACTICS.
SOMEONE'S PANICKING. SEE IF THERE'S ANY YOU CAN SAVE. I'M GOING TO FIND THE FORSAKEN.

ELSEWHERE.
THAT YOU, JIM?
HOW'D THINGS GO WITH THE NEW RECRUIT?
HOLY--
OVERT-KILL?!?
NO SCARE. WE SAME TEAM?
I'M MARC, REMEMBER ME? MARC!
MARC? JIM SAY WE FRIENDS.

MARC WONDERS WHY THIS REANIMATED HYBRID IS EVEN HERE. THE LAST THEY KNEW, HE'D BEEN DESTROYED.
JIM? DID HE DO THIS?
IS HE THE ONE WHO PUT YOU BACK TOGETHER?
HE HELP ME. FIXED ME.
YOU'RE WITH JIM NOW, NOT SPAWN?
YES. SPAWN ONLY WANT TO USE ME AS SLAVE.

"I GOT BROKEN AND SPAWN LEFT ME... ALONE.*
"IF NO JIM COME SAVE, I STILL BE THERE, DEAD.
*See issue 314 – Thomas

BAD FOR SPAWN TO HAVE SO MUCH POWER.
WHO TOLD YOU THAT, WAS IT JIM?
YES.
AH, I SEE YOU'VE MET YOUR OLD FRIEND.
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM?
DO? I SAVED HIM, MARC. WHEN NO ONE ELSE WOULD.
HE'S STILL RE-LEARNING HOW TO SPEAK, BUT FOR COMING BACK FROM THE DEAD TWICE, I THINK HE'S DOING QUITE WELL.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, OVERT-KILL?
ME GETTING BETTER.
WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER RECRUIT YOU TALKED ABOUT?
HIS NAME'S DANIEL KILGORE, KNOWN AS HAUNT.
I REMEMBER HIM, HE'S THAT WEIRD PRIEST. SO, HE'S JOINING US?
HE SAID HE NEEDS TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE HE'S A LOCK.
BUT, EVEN IF HE DOESN'T JOIN, I THINK WE'RE ALMOST READY TO MAKE OUR MOVE. DO YOU AGREE?
I THINK SO.

...LEAVING NOW, PREPARE OPERATIONS TO GO UNDERGROUND FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
NO, FORGET ABOUT SPAWN. LISTEN TO ME, WE'RE...
LISTEN TO ME! THIS IS BIGGER THAN ALL THAT--
KOOM
YOU LIED TO ME.
YOUR RIGHT TO BE A SERVANT OF HEAVEN HAS BEEN FORFEITED.

WHATEVER THE HELLSPAWNS HAVE TOLD YOU, FORSAKEN, IT'S NOT WHAT--
SILENCE! NO MORE LIES!
VERY WELL, IF YOU WON'T LISTEN...!
KANG
FIRST BLOOD GOES TO CORDELIA AND FOR A BRIEF MOMENT, SHE ENTERTAINS THE POSSIBILITY SHE MIGHT MAKE IT THROUGH THIS ALIVE.
BUT IT'S JUST A MOMENT.
SHE'S AGAINST AN ELEMENTAL FORCE BENT ON HER DESTRUCTION.

SO THERE COULD ONLY EVER HAVE BEEN ONE OUTCOME
IT'S MY TURN.
I WAS COMING TO LOOK FOR YOU, VIPER.
SINCE I'M ABOUT TO DESTROY EVERY HELLSPAWN THAT LIVES
NOW...

AT FIRST GLANCE, THIS CLASH APPEARS SIMPLY TO BE THE LATEST CONFRONTATION IN A WAR THAT'S BEEN RAGING SINCE THE FIRST ANGEL WAS CAST OUT OF HEAVEN

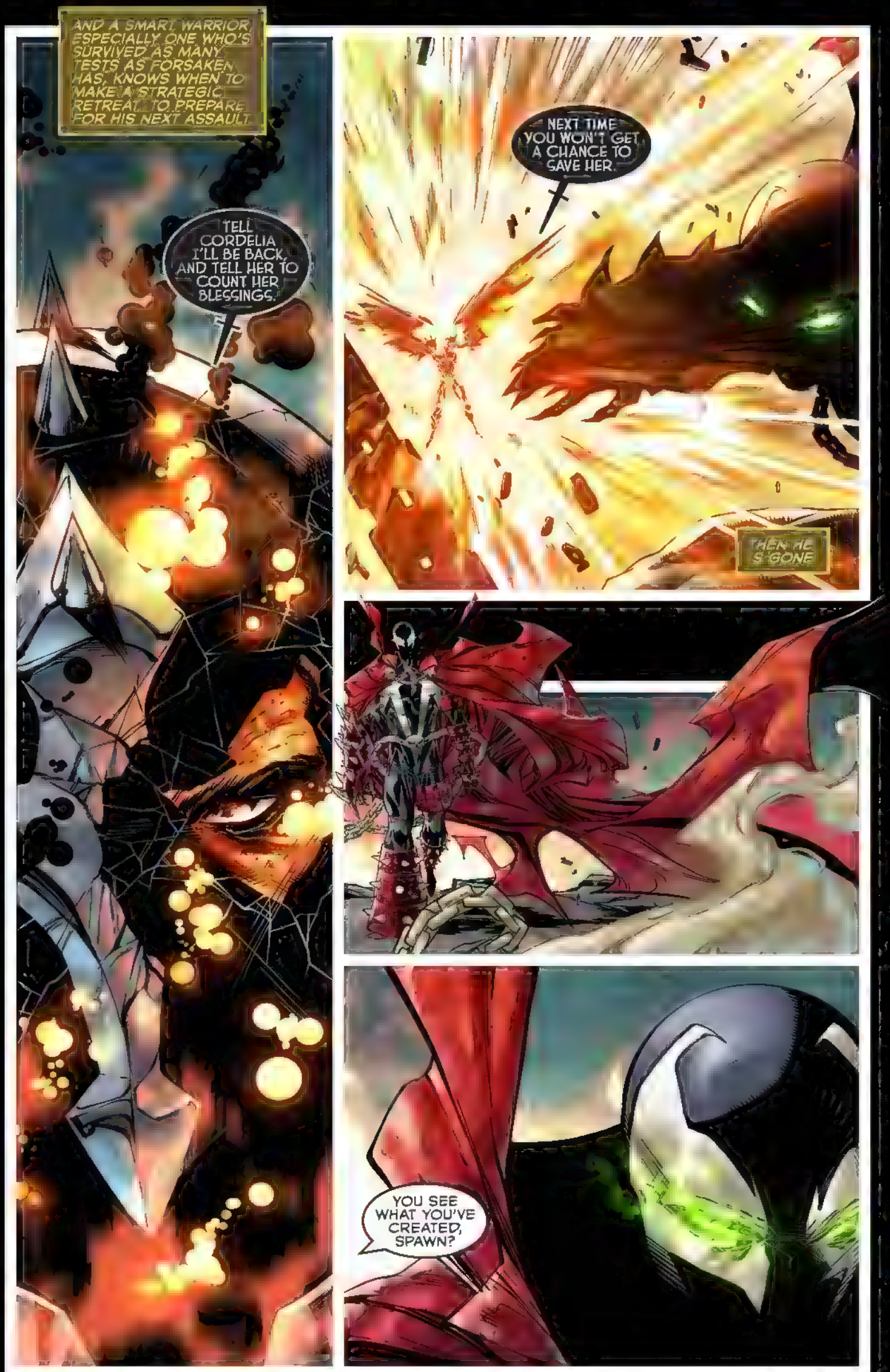
YET, THEY SHARE A COMMON BOND. BOTH ARE ANOMALIES AMONG THEIR KIND

HELLSPAWN VS. ANTI-SPAWN

HEAVEN VS. HELL

BOTH ARE AS MUCH BY THE SIDE THAT CREATED THEM AS BY THEIR ENEMIES

THOUGH EACH WOULD SOONER DIE BEFORE ADMITTING THAT CONNECTION!
FOR SPAWN, RIGHT NOW, HE HOMES INTO HIS OPPONENT'S POTENTIAL WEAKNESS!
HIS ARMOR
ONCE CRACKED, IT FORCES ITS HOST TO SPLIT ITS ATTENTION
BATTLING BOTH EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL DAMAGE.

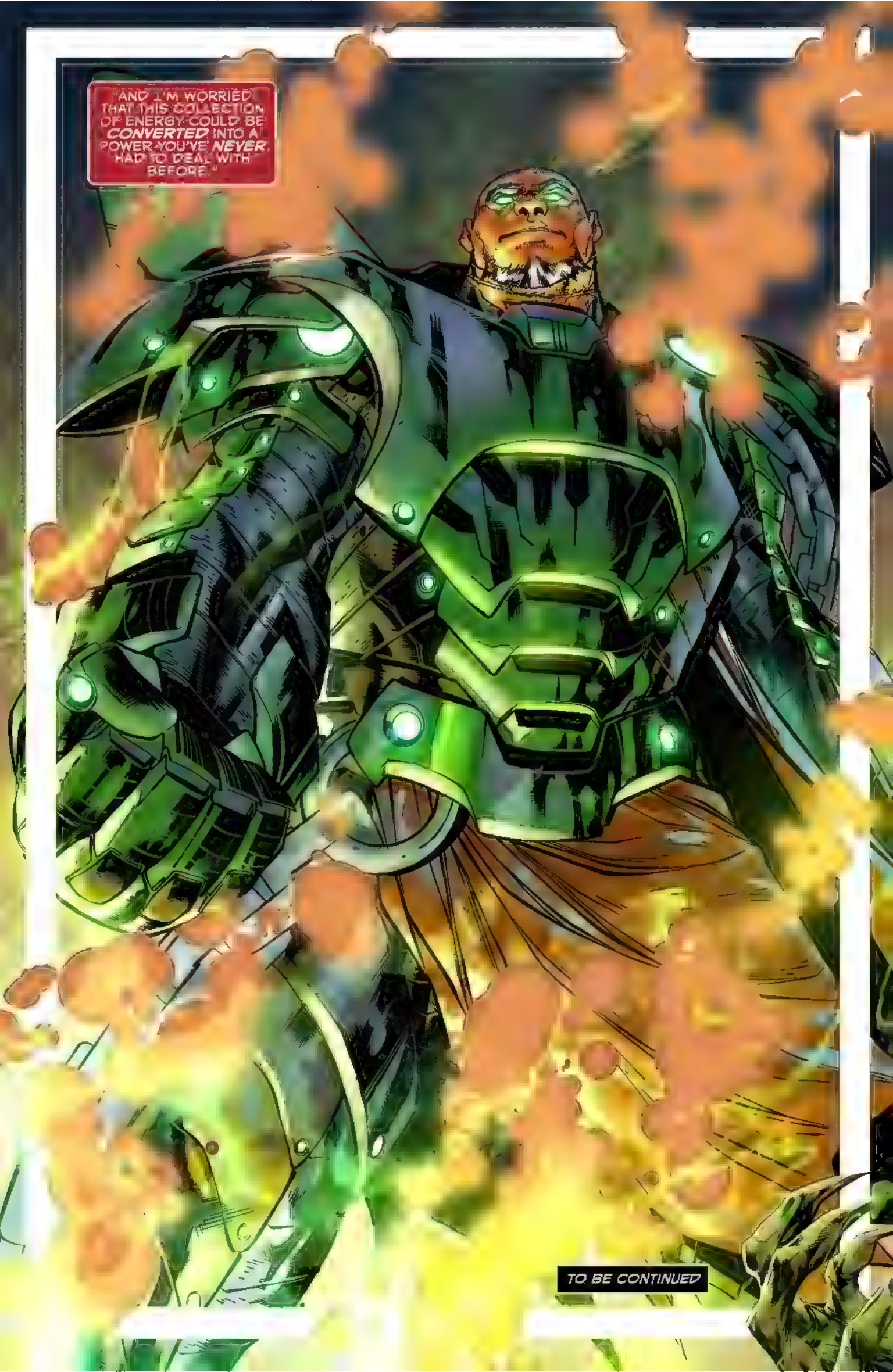

AND A SMART WARRIOR, ESPECIALLY ONE WHO'S SURVIVED AS MANY TESTS AS FORSAKEN HAS, KNOWS WHEN TO MAKE A STRATEGIC RETREAT TO PREPARE FOR HIS NEXT ASSAULT.
TELL CORDELIA I'LL BE BACK, AND TELL HER TO COUNT HER BLESSINGS.
NEXT TIME YOU WON'T GET A CHANCE TO SAVE HER.
THEN HE'S GONE
YOU SEE WHAT YOU'VE CREATED, SPAWN?

SPAWN STANDS SILENT, UNWILLING TO ENGAGE OR DEBATE HIS ENEMY ESPECIALLY HER KIND
WHAT YOU'VE UNLEASHED!
HOW DO YOU THINK HE GOT HERE? IT WAS YOU, WHEN YOU CREATED THAT TEAR IN TIME IT PULLED IN HUNDREDS, FROM EVERY ERA IMAGINABLE!
...DUMPED THEM HERE ON EARTH AND NOW ALL OF US HAVE TO CLEAN UP YOUR MESS! DID YOU EVER STOP TO WONDER WHERE THEY CAME FROM, WHAT THEY'RE CAPABLE OF?
...OR WHY THESE MONSTERS AREN'T ATTACKING YOUR CITIES AND MASSACRING MILLIONS OF PEOPLE?! DID YOU QUESTION THAT, OR ARE YOU SO ARROGANT YOU DON'T CARE?
IT'S BECAUSE OF ME!
I'VE BEEN CATCHING THEM, CONTAINING THEM! NOT YOU!
BECAUSE EVERY ONE OF THEM HATES THAT THEY'RE LOCKED ON THIS DAMN PLANET!

YOU'VE SET *EVERYTHING THAT BREATHES* ON THE PATH TO ANN.HILATION!
REMEMBER THAT! ALL THEIR DEATHS WILL BE ON YOUR HEAD.

LATER...
I DID A SCAN OF WHAT REMAINS AT THAT FACILITY, BUT THERE WASN'T ANYTHING USEFUL. THE GUARDS WERE PRETTY THOROUGH.
THE ONLY POSITIVE? WHATEVER THEY WERE WORKING ON WAS LIKELY DESTROYED.
"AND REDEEMER'S STILL SEARCHING AFTER FORSAKEN, BUT IT APPEARS HE'S GONE INTO HIDING."
WHAT ABOUT SOME OF THOSE OTHER SPAWNS? ANY LUCK TRACKING DOWN THEIR SIGNALS?
NOT SO FAR. THE SCANNER'S BEEN RUNNING AROUND THE CLOCK BUT SO FAR-- NOTHING.
THAT'S NOT NORMAL, THERE SHOULD'VE BEEN THE ODD BLIP POPPING UP.
BECAUSE THEIR SIGNALS WERE ACTIVE WHEN YOU LEFT. BUT MINUTES LATER, THEY ALL WENT DEAD. AT FIRST...

I ASSUMED THE FORSAKEN WAS CAPTURING ALL THOSE SPAWNS
BUT FROM WHAT YOU SAID, IT WAS CORDELIA AND HER FACILITY LOOKED LIKE IT ONLY EVER HELD FOUR SPAWNS AT THE MOST
THAT'S ONLY A QUARTER OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGNALS THE OTHER SPAWNS WERE GIVING OFF. ANOTHER DOZEN READINGS ALSO WENT DEAD
AND SOMEONE'S COLLECTING ALL THEIR ENERGY PLASMA. WHOEVER THAT IS, HE'S STILL OUT THERE. WAITING


"AND I'M WORRIED THAT THIS COLLECTION OF ENERGY COULD BE *CONVERTED* INTO A POWER YOU'VE *NEVER* HAD TO DEAL WITH BEFORE."
TO BE CONTINUED

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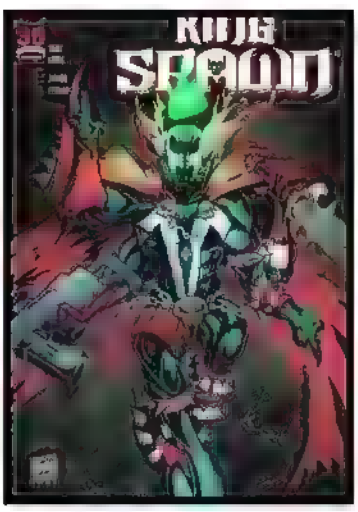
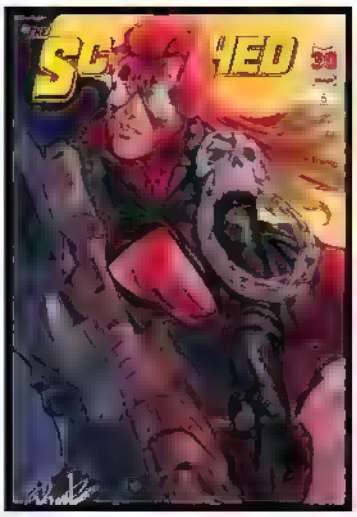
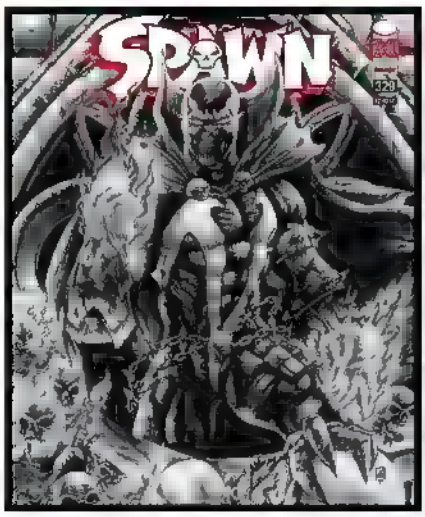
SPAWNING GROUND

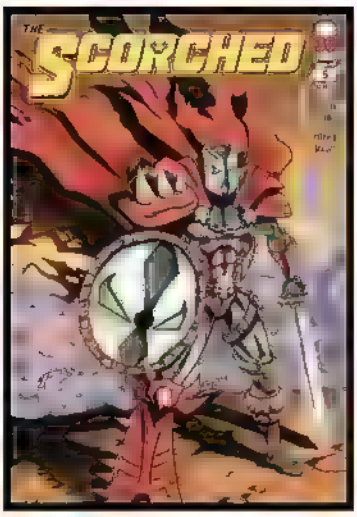
PRESENTS:

FAN ART
SKETCH COVERS









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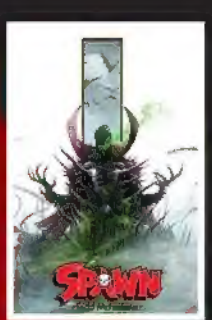

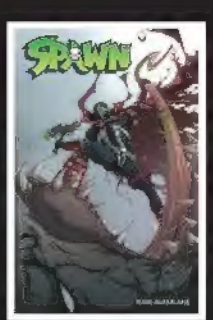

And Classic Spawn Tales!

Coming 2022

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